PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to (703, 872-9306 on the date shown below addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents. P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria. VA 22313-1450.

Date: 12-29-03

Himanshu S. Amin

MS303531.2

RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 2 9 2003

OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): Eric J. Horvitz

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No:

10/611,491

Art Unit: 2643

Filing Date:

June 30, 2003

Title: BOUNDED-DEFERRAL POLICIES FOR GUIDING THE TIMING OF

ALERTING, INTERACTION AND COMMUNICATIONS USING LOCAL

SENSORY INFORMATION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested prior to performing substantive examination of the above-identified patent application. Specifically, this amendment is made to correct the references to related applications submitted with the present application.